

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. Application of:

For:

U.S. Serial No.:

Dennis Ray WILSON

BURN ASSISTED FRACTURING OF
UNDERGROUND COAL BED

10/656,436

Confirmation No.:

8479

Filed:

September 5, 2003

Group Art Unit:

3672

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

DECEMBER 22, 2003

Date of Deposit

DAVID L. HITCHCOCK

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered
Representative

Signature

DECEMBER 22, 2003

Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant wishes to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of each document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects

its relative pertinence. The references cited below are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind.

The following document is cited in the specification of the application:

- (1) Ginsburgh et al, U.S. Patent No. 4,271,904, issued June 9, 1981;

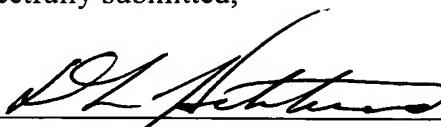
Applicant also wishes to bring to the attention of the Examiner the following documents:

- (2) Pasini, III et al, U.S. Patent No. 3,933,447, issued January 20, 1976;
- (3) Shuck, U.S. Patent No. 4,026,356, issued May 31, 1977;
- (4) Steeman, U.S. Patent No. 4,245,699, issued January 20, 1981;
- (5) Tsai et al, U.S. Patent No. 4,299,285, issued November 10, 1981;
- (6) Ginsburgh et al, U.S. Patent No. 4,343,361, issued August 10, 1982;
- (7) Palmer et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,417,286, issued May 23, 1995;
- (8) Palmer et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,494,108, issued February 27, 1996;
- (9) Chaback et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,566,756, issued October 22, 1996;
- (10) Wilson et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,653,287, issued August 5, 1997;
- (11) Riese et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,669,444, issued September 23, 1997;
- (12) Riese, U.S. Patent No. 5,853,224, issued December 29, 1998;
- (13) Riese et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,865,248, issued February 2, 1999;
- (14) Joh, U.S. Patent No. 5,868,248, issued February 9, 1999;

- (15) Riese et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,944,104, issued August 31, 1999;
- (16) Riese et al, U. Patent No. 5,964,290, issued October 12, 1999;
- (17) Kagan et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,967,223, issued October 19, 1999;
- (18) Hsu et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,016,873, issued January 25, 2000;
- (19) Montgomery et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,024,171, issued February 15, 2000;
- (20) Seidle et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,119,778, issued September 19, 2000;
- (21) Mones, U.S. Patent No. 6,244,338 B1, issued June 12, 2001;
- (22) Zupanick, U.S. Patent No. 6,280,000 B1, issued August 28, 20;
- (23) Gunter et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,412,559 B1, issued July 2, 2002; and
- (24) Mones, U.S. Patent No. 6,450,256 B2, issued September 17, 2002.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Office Action, no fee is required. If it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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December 22, 2003

DAI 279967v1

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**



Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/656,436
Confirmation No.	8479
Filing Date	September 5, 2003
First Inventor	Dennis Ray WILSON
Group Art Unit	3672
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket No.	18326/03901

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite #	DOCUMENT NUMBER	C O D E	PATENTEE	ISSUE DATE (mm/dd/yy)	CLASS	SUB CLASS	Filing Date if Appropriate
	(1)	4,271,904		Ginsburgh et al	06/09/81	166	251	
	(2)	3,933,447		Pasini, III et al	01/20/76	48	210	
	(3)	4,026,356		Shuck	05/31/77	166	259	
	(4)	4,245,699		Steeman	01/20/81	166	271	
	(5)	4,299,285		Tsai et al	11/10/81	166	259	
	(6)	4,343,361		Ginsburgh et al	08/10/82	166	251	
	(7)	5,417,286		Palmer et al	05/23/95	166	308	
	(8)	5,494,108		Palmer et al	02/27/96	166	308	
	(9)	5,566,756		Chaback et al	10/22/96	166	263	
	(10)	5,653,287		Wilson et al	08/05/97	166	302	
	(11)	5,669,444		Riese et al	09/23/97	166	263	
	(12)	5,853,224		Riese	12/29/98	299	13	
	(13)	5,865,248		Riese et al	02/02/99	166	263	
	(14)	5,868,248		Joh	02/09/99	206	315.6	
	(15)	5,944,104		Riese et al	08/31/99	166	263	
	(16)	5,964,290		Riese et al	10/12/99	166	263	
	(17)	5,967,223		Kagan et al	10/19/99	164	481	
	(18)	6,016,873		Hsu et al	01/25/00	166	402	
	(19)	6,024,171		Montgomery et al	02/15/00	166	308	
	(20)	6,119,778		Seidle et al	09/19/00	166	263	
	(21)	6,244,338	B1	Mones	06/12/01	166	245	
	(22)	6,280,000	B1	Zupanick	08/28/01	299	12	
	(23)	6,412,559	B1	Gunter et al	07/02/02	166	271	
	(24)	6,450,256	B2	Mones	09/17/02	166	250.01	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published		
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.